

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of diagnosing a malfunction of a clutch of a motor vehicle with a transmission, comprising the steps of:

a) by means of a first sensor, generating a first electrical signal, which indicates if the motor vehicle is standing still;

b) by means of a second sensor, generating a second electrical signal, which indicates if a gear in the automatically shifting transmission cannot be synchronized within a prescribed time interval;

c) by means of a third sensor, generating a third electrical signal, which indicates if the engine is running; and

d) evaluating the first, second and third electrical signals in a logic AND-member which sets an error flag indicating a malfunction in the clutch-actuator if all three signals are affirmative.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the transmission is shifted into neutral when the error flag has been set.

3. The transmission of claim 1, wherein the error flag is canceled if a selector lever of the transmission is actuated by a driver of the motor vehicle before a prescribed time limit has elapsed after the error flag has been set.

4. An apparatus for automatically actuating a clutch with a clutch actuator, wherein the apparatus is adapted to perform the method of claim 1.

5. An apparatus for automatically actuating a clutch with a clutch actuator, wherein the apparatus is adapted to perform the method of claim 1.